

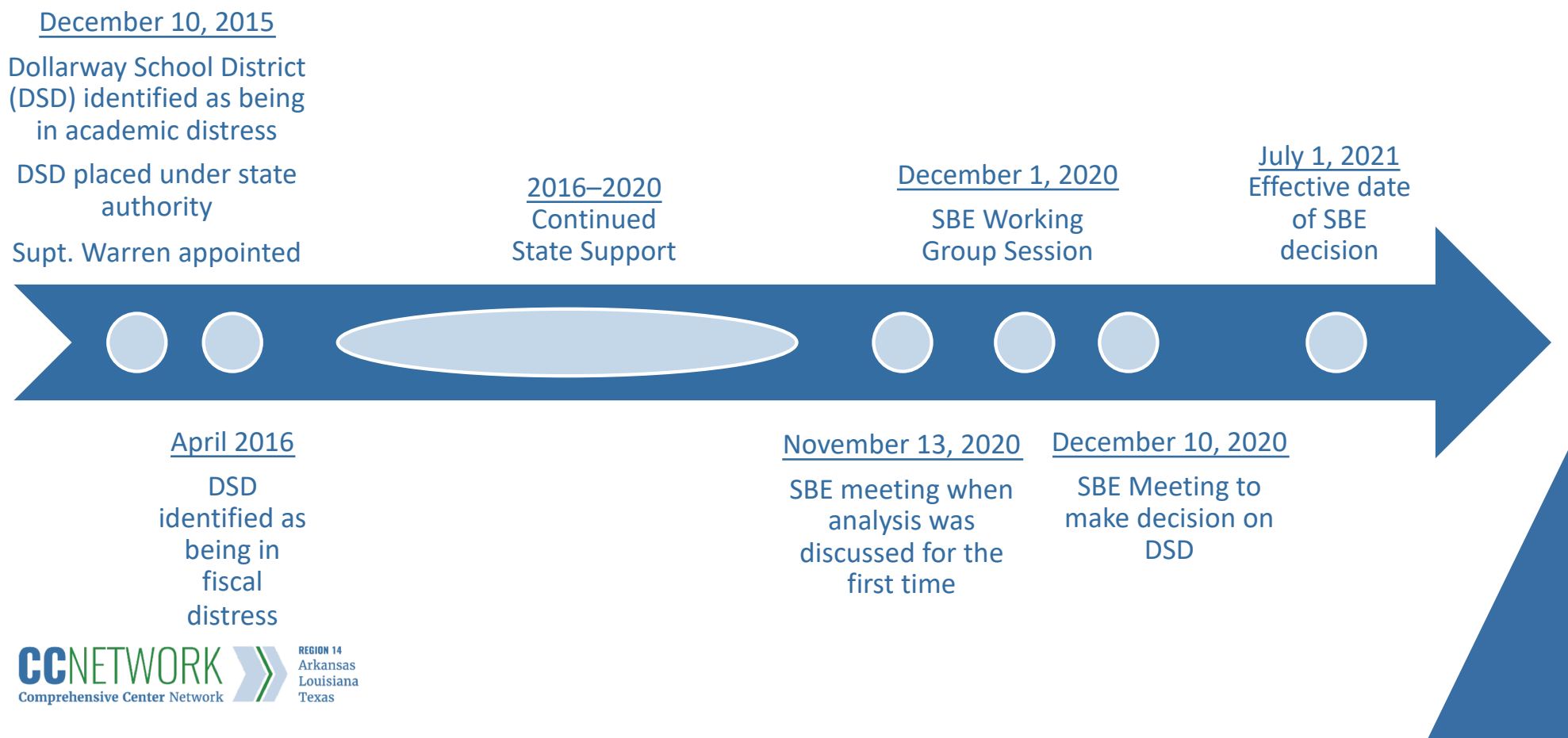


Overview of Current Considerations for Dollarway School District

November 2020



Timeline for State Board of Education Action



Legally Allowable Scenarios for Dollarway School District

1. Return to Local Control

DSD will be governed by a locally elected or appointed school board.

2. Reconstitution

DSD will be governed differently — in a manner decided by the State Board of Education — to maintain progress toward improvement.

3. Annexation

DSD will become part of another school district. The other school district will maintain leadership over schools previously within the Dollarway School District.

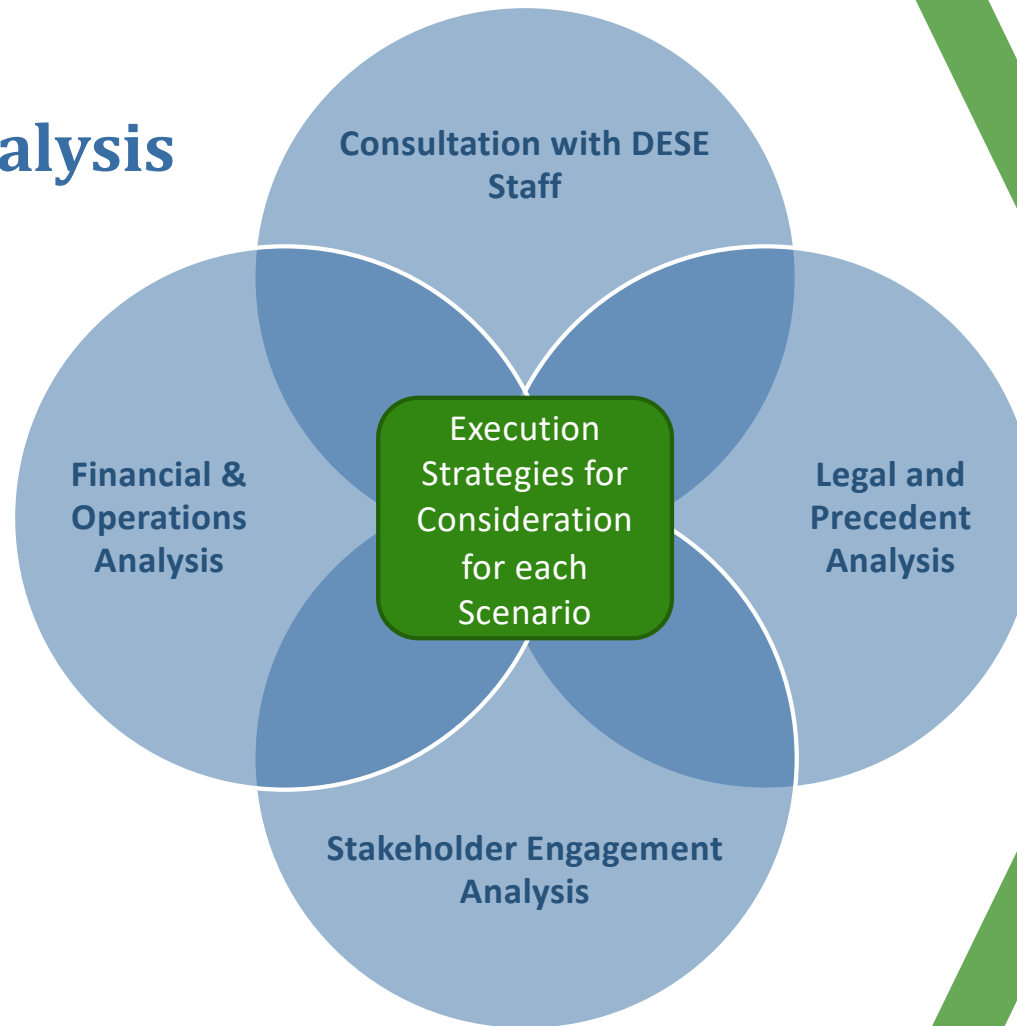
4. Consolidation

DSD and one or more other school district(s) will merge and become a new, larger school district. The districts will combine operations, assets, and leadership and will operate under one unified strategy.

According to information presented to State Board of Education on November 13th, it is unlikely that Dollarway School District has met Exit Criteria to be considered for Option 1.

Elements of the Analysis

The options for consideration for each scenario were developed based on a combination of the elements of analysis.



Options for Return to Local Control Scenario

1. Return to Local Control

- State Board of Education could appoint a local school board to oversee the Dollarway School District
- Local school board could provide accountability and oversight for predetermined success criteria and reports to DESE
- Since no new funds would be available, local revenue would remain consistent with current state
- Significant reduction of staff would need to occur to reduce costs, as decided by the Dollarway School District leadership
- DESE could monitor progress against success criteria and provide technical assistance, but would no longer monitor the day-to-day operations of the Dollarway School District
- DESE would appoint a superintendent for the Dollarway School district until a local decision about the position has been made

Options for Reconstitution Scenario

2. Reconstitution

- Central services from Dollarway could be merged with those same services from Pine Bluff School District to create efficiencies and decrease expenses
- Dollarway School District would be free to pursue innovative solutions to increase student enrollment and improve services
- Changes could be implemented over a period of two years
- A new school board would be put in place that could be a mix of state-appointed members with expertise in education and locally-elected members with knowledge of the Dollarway community
- Additional measures would need to be taken to decrease expenses, which may include consolidating bus routes, decreasing staffing, or eliminating programs and services
- The current superintendent could remain in place, while some other central service staff may be consolidated

Options for Annexation Scenario

3. Annexation

- Dollarway schools would become part of the Pine Bluff School District
- The transition would occur before July 1, 2021, and changes could be implemented over 1–2 years
- DESE would continue authority over Dollarway schools and Pine Bluff schools; DESE could appoint a limited-authority local school board with representatives from both the Pine Bluff and Dollarway areas
- Pine Bluff School District, and in turn the Dollarway schools, would receive incentive funds for the annexation for 2 years (approximately 3 million dollars over the two years)
- At some point in the future, high school campuses in Dollarway and Pine Bluff may merge and staff in these schools are consolidated
- Excess buildings within district boundaries may be sold to increase revenue and decrease expenses
- Superintendent Warren could maintain oversight over both Pine Bluff and Dollarway schools and some central service positions would need to be consolidated

Options for Consolidation Scenario

4. Consolidation

- Dollarway School District and Pine Bluff School District could merge together to become an entirely new school district
- The transition would begin on July 1, 2021, and changes could be implemented over 1–2 years
- A new school board would be elected which could have representation from all geographic areas within the current Dollarway and Pine Bluff communities; DESE would no longer have authority over the Dollarway or Pine Bluff schools
- The new school district would receive incentive funds meant to assist in the consolidation for two years
- Beginning in July 2022, high school campuses in Dollarway and Pine Bluff may merge and staff in these schools would be consolidated
- Excess buildings within district boundaries could be sold to increase revenue and decrease expenses
- Superintendent Warren could maintain oversight over the new district and other staffing changes would be decided by the newly formed district leadership and local school board

Thank you for your feedback!